Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-01 TRSE-00

LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 SS-15 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

USIA-06 L-02 H-01 TAR-01 AGR-05 EA-06 XMB-02 /092 W

R 061804Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8516

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, EAGR, ETRD, EEC

SUBJECT: EC FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL MARCH 3-4

REF: 1) USEC 1864, 2)USEC 1815

1.SUMMARY.AN INFORMED FRG FORNOFFICE SOURCE EXPRESSED GENERAL SATISFACTION WITH OUTCOME MARCH 3-4 COUNCIL MEETING AND PREPARATIONS FOR MARCH 10-11 HEADS OF GOVERNMENT MEETING IN DUBLIN. FRG BELIEVES BUDGET CONTRIBUTION ISSUE IS PROPERLY A MATTER FOR DECISION BY HEADS OF GOVERNMENT, AND SO HAD NOT BEEN DISAPPOINTED BY FAILURE OF FORNMINISTERS TO REACH ANY CONCLUSIONS. PROVISIONS FOR SPECIAL ACCESS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF NEW ZEALAND BUTTER (BUT NOT CHEESE) BEYOND 1977

SHOULD BE POSSIBLE, PROVIDED AMOUNT OF BUTTER COVERED BY QUOTA DECLINES OVER TIME. FRG PLEASED BY QUALITY AND TONE OF COMMISSION PAPER ON ECONOMIC OUTLOOK, ESPECIALLY ITS STRESS PLACED ON STABILIZATION AS PRIMARY POLICY GOAL. FRG HAS PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF EC EXPERT GROUP ON RAW MATERIAL POLICY TO ASSESS PROBLEM AND HELP IN COORDINATION OF MEMBER STATE POSITIONS. END SUMMARY

- 2. BUDGET CONTRIBUTIONS. FREITAG, WHO DIRECTS
 OFFICE FOR EC TRADE AND THIRD COUNTRY RELATIONS
 IN FORNOFFICE, WAS RELATIVELY SANGUINE
 ABOUT STATE OF PLAY ON BUDGET ISSUE. AS FAR
 AS FRG IS CONCERNED, ONLY TWO IMPORTANT ISSUES
 REMAIN TO BE SETTLED: THE QUESTION OF WHETHER
 REVENUES FROM LEVIES AND CUSTOMS DUTIES WILL BE
 INCLUDED IN CALCULATION OF BUDGET CONTRIBUTIONS, AND
 THE FRG INTEREST IN HAVING A FIXED CEILING PLACED
 ON COMPENSATION PERMITTED UNDER PROPOSED SCHEME.
 WHILE FRG PREFERS THAT ONLY THE VAT REVENUES BE
 USED TO CALCULATE CONTRIBUTIONS TO EC BUDGET, THE
 ESTABLISHMENT OF A CEILING IS OF MORE IMPORTANCE TO FRG.
- 3. ACCESS OF NEW ZEALAND BUTTER AND CHEESE. FREITAG THOUGHT THAT THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT COULD DO NO MORE THAN ISSUE A GENERAL STATEMENT OF INTEREST CONCERNING THEIR WILLINGNESS TO CONTINUE GIVING PREFERENTIAL ACCESS TO NEW ZEALAND DAIRY PRODUCTS AFTER 1977. THE REVIEW OF IMPACT OF THE SPECIAL TREATMENT OF NEW ZEALAND DAIRY PRODUCTS CALLED FOR BY PROTOCOL 18 TO THE ACCESSION TREATIES MUST BE MADE BEFORE THE COUNCIL CAN DECIDE ON PROPOSALS FOR CONTINUED PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT. FREITAG INDICATED THAT FRG WOULD BE WILLING TO ACCEPT A LIMITED SCHEME FOR PREFERENTIAL ACCESS OF NEW ZEALAND BUTTER FOR A THREE-YEAR PERIOD BEYOND 1977. SINCE THIS SCHEME SHOULD BE DESIGNED TO

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R 061804Z MAR 75
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8517
INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
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PHASE OUT GRADUALLY THE NEW ZEALAND DEPENDENCE ON UK MARKET, THE AMOUNT OF THE QUOTA SHOULD NOT BE HIGHER THAN THE 138 TONS PERMITTED IN 1977, AND SHOULD DECLINE OVER TIME. PREFERENTIAL ACCESS SHOULD BE CONTINUED ONLY FOR BUTTER. FRG OPPOSES UK SUGGESTION TO LINK PRICE OF NEW ZEALAND BUTTER TO COMMUNITY SUPPORT PRICE.

4. ECONOMIC POLICY COORDINATION. THE COMMENTS ON POLICY SET FORTH IN THE COMMISSION'S PAPER ON ECONOMIC OUTLOOK STRUCK A PARTICULARLY RECEPTIVE NOTE IN BONN. FREITAG CITED THE EMPHASIS PLACED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ON STABILITY, THE NEED FOR SELECTIVE MEASURES TO COMBAT UNEMPLOYMENT RATHER THAN GENERAL EXPANSION,

AND THE WARNING THAT TOO STRONG A MOVE TOWARD EXPANSIONARY STANCE MAY AGGRAVATE UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEMS OVER LONG RUN. COMMISSION'S SUGGESTION THAT SURPLUS COUNTRIES REVIEW THEIR POLICIES TO SEE WHETHER FURTHER STEPS COULD BE TAKEN TO INCREASE DEMAND IS SUFFICIENTLY CAUTIOUS TO BE ACCEPTABLE TO FRG.

5. RAW MATERIALS POLICY. RECOGNIZING WIDE DIFFERENCES OF VIEW SEPARATING MEMBER COUNTRIES, FREITAG BELIEVES IT IS NEVERTHELESS IMPORTANT TO TRY TO DEVELOP COORDINATED EC POSITIONS. GENERAL DISCUSSION BY HEADS OF GOVERNMENT ON BASIS OF COMMISSION PAPER WILL BE USEFUL START. HOWEVER, FRG BELIEVES NEW INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISM IS NEEDED FOR EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH AIM OF ACHIEVING COORDINATED POSITIONS. FRG HAS PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF EXPERTS GROUP REPORTING TO PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES. COMMISSION HAS WELCOMED THIS SUGGESTION, AND SO FREITAG DOES NOT BELIEVE THERE WILL BE TOO MUCH DIFFICULTY IN SETTING UP THIS GROUP.

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